

TERCENTENARY HISTORY
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only had the satisfaction of attaining a high position in his community as a financier and business man, but has had the greater pleasure of seeing his institution forge steadily to the front as an important factor in the financial development of the city and county. The handsome new building which the Commercial State Bank has erected on one of the prominent business corners of Frederick is but the outward symbol of an inner growth and prosperity, to which Mr. Clary has contributed lavishly of his time and ability as one of the bank's chief officers.

GORDON GAMBRILL.

Gordon Gambrill is one of the promising young attorneys of Baltimore, his native city. He belongs to one of the old Maryland families, and was born August 10, 1894, son of the late Robert Gordon Gambrill, who was a merchant of this city, conducting a successful wholesale grocery business. In 1890 Robert Gordon Gambrill was married to Miss Lillian W. Edmonds of Baltimore and to them were born two children, of whom Gordon Gambrill of this review is the elder.

Gordon Gambrill was educated in the public schools of Baltimore and graduated from the Franklin high school, Reisterstown, Maryland. He next attended St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, and later the United States Naval Academy at the same place, where he remained for a year. In 1916 he graduated from the University of Maryland Law School, with the LL. B. degree and immediately entered the practice of his profession under his own name, in Baltimore.

Scarcely had he become established in his work when the United States was dragged into the conflict raging in Europe and the country's call came for men. Mr. Gambrill entered the Officers Training Camp at Fort Myer, Virginia, as a student, but was soon transferred to the naval service, where he held the rank of ensign in the Naval Reserves throughout the war and for some months following the signing of the armistice. For a year of this service he was on duty in England. Upon his honorable discharge from the Naval Reserves, which occurred on the 23d of June, 1919, he again took up the practice of law, specializing in corporation law. A steady substantial progress rather than any phenomenal growth has attended these first formative years of Mr. Gambrill's professional career and he has made a record of his last three years of practice that inspires confidence in his integrity and legal ability.

Politics are a subject of keen interest to this young attorney who is a democrat and an active supporter of his party. He prepared the proposed legislation to restrict excessive rents on houses and apartments in the state of Maryland, which was acted upon in the legislature in 1920. Fraternally he is a Mason, belonging to Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 97, F. & A. M., and his religious affiliations are indicated by his membership in the Protestant Episcopal church. He also belongs to the Baltimore Press Club and the Baltimore Country Club.

BENJAMIN ALLEIN WELCH.

Benjamin Allein Welch, well known in the banking circles of Maryland, is the treasurer and cashier of the Annapolis Savings Institution, with which he has been closely identified for seventeen years. His youthful experiences, however, were of an extremely different nature, as he was born and reared on a farm in Anne Arundel county, his birth having occurred on the 24th of March, 1862. His parents were Benjamin Allein and Lucy (Pindell) Welch. The father was a representative of one of the old and honored pioneer families of the state, several generations thereof having resided within the borders of this commonwealth. The grandfather was likewise a native of Anne Arundel county and through successive generations members of the family have been active in promoting the progress, upbuilding and development of this section of the state. The father, Benjamin Allein Welch, Sr., was a prominent agriculturist of the county and passed away on the old home place in 1872. He had promoted public progress along the lines of educational and moral development as one of the school trustees and as a consistent and helpful member of the Episcopal church. His wife was a daughter of Rinaldo Pindell, of a distinguished Maryland family, and by her

marriage she became the mother of eleven children. Both parents are now deceased.

Benjamin A. Welch, whose name introduces this review, was educated in private schools and farmed the old homestead after his textbooks were put aside, continuing to devote his attention to the further development and cultivation of his land until 1898. The following year he was elected deputy treasurer of Anne Arundel county and made so excellent a record in that position that in 1902 he was nominated by his party for the office of county treasurer, to which he was elected for a two-year term, remaining the capable and faithful custodian of the public funds until 1904. On other occasions, too, he has been called to serve in positions of public trust. In 1898 he was chosen to represent Anne Arundel county in the house of burgesses and while a member of the legislative body of the state he served on many important committees and aided in furthering progress along various lines that contributed to the advancement and benefit of the commonwealth. Two years after his retirement from the office of county treasurer, or in 1906, he entered the banking business as assistant treasurer of the Annapolis Savings Institution and in 1914 was advanced to the position of treasurer and cashier, which is his present official relation with the bank. His capability, his thoroughness, his uniform courtesy to the patrons of the bank and his high ideals of service have long constituted elements in the growth of the bank and the continuous increase in its business.

In 1893 Mr. Welch was married to Miss Susie Hodges Ogle, a daughter of Richard L. Ogle of Prince Georges county, Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Welch have the following children: Richard Ogle Welch, a captain in the United States army, who is stationed at Fort Slocum, New York, and who married Lucy Allen, a lady of English birth; and Philip Pindell Welch, who is a lieutenant in the United States navy.

Mr. Welch has always given his political allegiance to the democratic party. Fraternally he is connected with the Elks Lodge, No. 622, of which he was at one time chaplain, and as a club man he is known through his membership in the Annapolitan Club. He also belongs to St. Anne's Episcopal church, an historic old church of Annapolis, and his interest centers in those channels through which flows the greatest and most permanent good to the greatest number. He is a worthy scion of his race, representing one of the oldest families of Maryland and one that has made substantial contribution to the growth and progress of the commonwealth through many generations.

MORRIS SAMUEL LAZARON.

Morris Samuel Lazaron, prominent in the religious life of the city of Baltimore and as rabbi of the Baltimore Hebrew congregation, a leader in the liberal wing of American Judaism, is a native of Georgia. He was born in Savannah, on the 16th of April, 1888, the son of Samuel Louis Lazaron, who was a native of Americus, Georgia, and a prominent lawyer practicing in Savannah until 1907. He now resides in Baltimore. Samuel L. Lazaron specialized in corporation law and applied his legal knowledge to specific enterprises as the organizer of various loan and improvement associations. He built the first car line to West Savannah, a factory suburb of the city, and developed that section by the construction of good roads, houses and streets. He also took an active interest in politics and was instrumental in organizing the citizens' reform party. He married Miss Alice Zipporah de Castro, and they have three children: Morris Samuel of this review, Anita Hannah, and Bertha Lazaron. Mrs. Lazaron is the daughter of Jacob Osorio and Hannah (de Sola) de Castro, who once lived in New Orleans but were both natives of the Virgin Islands, then belonging to Denmark, now American possessions. The de Castro family can be traced back to the ninth century in Portugal and Spain. Isaac de Sola was court physician at Aragon at the time of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492, and died of a broken heart, starving himself to death in his library. The family eventually moved to Santa Cruz and St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, where a branch of it now lives, and thence to New Orleans. Morris S. Lazaron's grandfather, Jacob O. de Castro, was in the home guard at the time of the Civil war and refusing to take the oath of allegiance when Butler besieged the city of New Orleans, was forced to flee as a refugee to Mobile and thence to Savannah, where he made his home. A great-uncle, Judah P. Benjamin, was a